

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
TAMPA DIVISION

ERIK BURCH,

Plaintiff,

v.

Case No. 8:14-cv-1802-T-17-AEP

ANDREW M. SAUL,
Commissioner of Social Security,

Defendant.

_____ /

ORDER

This cause comes before the Court on Plaintiff's Motion for Attorney Fees (Doc. 39). By the motion, Plaintiff seeks attorney's fees in the amount of \$4,100.00 pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act ("EAJA"), 28 U.S.C. § 2412. On October 27, 2020, this Court entered an Order granting Plaintiff's Motion for Judgment as a Matter of Law and directed the Clerk to reopen the case and enter judgment in favor of Plaintiff (Doc. 37). Thereafter, the Clerk entered judgment in favor of Plaintiff (Doc. 38). As the prevailing party, Plaintiff now requests an award of attorney's fees. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d)(1)(A); *cf. Shalala v. Schaefer*, 509 U.S. 292, 300-02 (1993) (concluding that a party who wins a sentence-four remand order under 42 U.S.C. § 405(g) is a prevailing party).

The Commissioner does not oppose the requested relief (Doc. 42). After issuance of an order awarding EAJA fees, however, the United States Department of the Treasury will determine whether Plaintiff owes a debt to the government. If Plaintiff has no discernable federal debt, the government will accept Plaintiff's assignment of EAJA fees and pay the fees directly to Plaintiff's counsel. For the reasons set out in Plaintiff's motion, therefore, it is hereby

ORDERED:

1. Plaintiff's Unopposed Motion for Attorney Fees (Doc. 39) is GRANTED.

2. Plaintiff is awarded fees in the amount of \$4,100.00. Unless the Department of Treasury determines that Plaintiff owes a federal debt, the government must pay the fees to Plaintiff's counsel in accordance with Plaintiff's assignment of fees (Doc. 39-1).

DONE AND ORDERED in Tampa, Florida, on this 16th day of February, 2021.



ANTHONY E. PORCELLI
United States Magistrate Judge

cc: Counsel of Record